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Survey of the State of Kansas

The Geographical Center of the United States

The Greatest Wheat State in the Union
---Produces all Other Grains in Abundance

Alfalfa and Other Forage Crops Grow in Kansas

(By R. Kenneth Evans)

This is the second of a series of fifteen industrial articles which will be published in the Free Press, one each week for the next fifteen weeks for the purpose of outlining to the outside world the vast field of opportunities existing here for advancement and success. The facts contained in these articles are all absolutely reliable and gathered by an expert publicity man, who has had many years' experience in this business.

The Free Press throughout this length of time, will make an effort to show that there is not a county west of the Mississippi river that offers a wider field of endeavor than Ellis county. Every phase of industrial life and business activity will be covered in a thorough and constructive manner.

The carrying out of this campaign has been made possible by the advertising support accorded by the many progressive business institutions of Hays, the metropolis and Capital of Ellis county and this section of Kansas. After reading industrial article turn to the industrial pages and see who these progressive firms are, who so willingly have come to the assistance of this enterprise.

Every reader of the Free Press can assist very materially in this campaign by sending his own copy of the paper to friends or relatives in other sections of this state or other states after he has completed reading it, that these friends might learn of the opportunities of this splendid productive section.

THE PUBLISHERS.

In exploiting the resources of Ellis county, as a unit in the most progressive, wealthiest and advancing state in the union it is very appropriate to say something about the state in which this peerless county is located. For this reason a short survey of Kansas and its points of interests occupies the "stage" of the Free Press industrial survey this week. The buffalo has departed from Kansas and the cowboy has gone, but the Indian remains, and upon his diminished head the feathers of romance are replaced by the Stetson of the department store and his pinto has made way for the high powered touring car. The Indian still dwells on the plains of Kansas. Remnants of his tribal customs remain in the Green Corn dance each fall on his reservations in Jackson and Brown counties but the glory of the First American has departed. His hand has but given way that the hand of the white man might realize the great advantages nature has bestowed upon this state. Ellis county is but a unit in this development, yet it can truly be said that the county is an empire within itself and is one of the factors in making Kansas such a progressive state and helps it maintain the enviable reputation it possesses in the commercial world of today.

To the tourist, speeding across the continent, Kansas offers no spectacular mountains or beaches to be glimpsed in passing, but to the discriminating traveler, every mile is pregnant with interest.

Here is the heart of the continent, and to him who passes there comes the calm of the great spaces, where his vision is unbounded save by the horizon, and wherein lies the granary of the nation.

Of mountains, none, but of hills, with outlined beauty and picturesque environment, there are many. Mount Oread, crowned with the stately structures of the University at Lawrence, beams a welcome to the pilgrim who has entered the state, while Blue Mount stands with friendly greeting to the world's Greatest Agricultural college at Manhattan. The buttes of the Verdigris river are touched with romance, the shifting sand dunes of the Arkansas, a wilderness uncommon on the continent, while Pawnee Rock stands a monument to untold tragedies.

Its Geographical Location

In the geographical center of the United States, the grassy parallelogram, called Kansas slopes, from the Missouri River, with an elevation of 750 feet above the sea, westward and upward towards the foothills of the Rockies, where an altitude of 4,000 feet is obtained.

The state is 408 miles long from east to west, and 208 miles from north to south. Its gently rolling surface is marked by the broad, level valleys of its rivers, so that one may travel its entire length from the mouth of the Kansas river to the Colorado state line with never a hill to climb.

With the northeast corner clipped off by the Missouri river, the state has an area of 82,080 square miles, or 52,499,078 acres, of which 94,802 is in water surface, 1,015,045 acres in prairie grass and 21,234,594 acres are under cultivation.

The population of the state is 1,769,257. The four largest cities are Kansas City, with a population of 101,177; Wichita, with 72,217; Topeka, 50,022, and Hutchinson, with 23,298.

Topeka is the capital, with a \$3,000,000 capital building, Washburn college, Bethany College for girls, the railroad shops and offices of the Great Santa Fe system, the State Reformatory for boys, the state hospital for the insane, numerous flour mills, manufactories, creameries, etc.

The Greatest Wheat State

Kansas is the principal wheat raising state of the union and is the largest producer of the unrivaled hard winter wheat of any political unit in the world. During the past twenty years Kansas has averaged more than 85,000,000 bushels of wheat per year. 1920 year's production approximately 150,000,000.

The climate of the state is generally mild, with a few excessively hot or cold days. There is an average of more than 200 days of sunshine in the year. In the eastern and low lying sections of the state the rainfall is well over thirty-six inches a year. This gradually decreases as the Colorado line is approached until the average is about nineteen inches. This variation in rainfall and altitude from east to west makes the broad development of the agricultural resources, for which the state is noted. The low altitude and heavy rainfall of the eastern third of the state are especially favored to the growth of all farm crops and fruits of the temperate zone. The middle third of the state, in which Ellis county is included, is the great producer of wheat, alfalfa, and corn, while the western third lends itself especially to wheat,

forage and livestock.

Much Alfalfa Grown in Kansas

Kansas is the largest alfalfa producing state in the union and this crop, together with corn and kafir, and the abundance of pasture and fodder makes for the cheap production of live stock and poultry. Kansas has approximately 1,300,000 horses and mules, 3,000,000 cattle, 1,300,000 hogs and 270,000 sheep. The total value of Kansas live stock is around \$341,000,000.

The total annual value of all farm products in Kansas is \$746,600,000 in which \$289,800,000 is represented in her crop of wheat and \$177,600,000 in beef, pork, poultry, eggs and other products of live stock.

Kansas An Oil Producer

Kansas produces more than \$100,000,000 worth of petroleum per year. More than \$22,000,000 worth of coal; \$7,000,000 in natural gas; \$6,000,000 in zinc and \$4,000,000 in salt; \$4,000,000 in asphalt. The total value of the mineral output of the state is approximately \$148,000,000.

An Educational Center

In the development of the state and its resources much attention has been paid to its educational possibilities and today Kansas is recognized as being equipped with the very best class of educational institutions. Following are the educational institutions in the state: Midland College, Atchison; Mount Scholastica Academy, Atchison; St. Benedict's College, Atchison; Baker University, Methodist, Baldwin; State Experiment Farm, Colby; Nazareth Academy, Catholic, Concordia; St. Marys of the Plains Academy, Dodge City; College of Emporia, Presbyterian, Emporia; Emporia Business College, Emporia; People's College at Fort Scott; Fredonia Business College of Fredonia; Fort Hays Experimental Station, Hays; Tabor College, Hillsboro; Campbell Junior College, Holton; Salt City Business College, Hutchinson; Olson Business College, Independence; Bell Memorial Medical College, Kansas City; Western University, Kansas City; Haskell Institute Government Indian School, Lawrence; Lawrence Business College; National Military Home at Leavenworth; U. S. Prison at Leavenworth; Bethany College, Lindsborg; Sacred Heart Academy, Manhattan; Junior College, Marysville; Central College, McPherson; McPherson College, McPherson; Miltonvale Wesleyan College, Miltonvale; Bethel College, Newton; Elks Home at Osawatomie; Osawatomie Academy at Osawatomie; College, Osawatomie; Ottawa University, Ottawa; Parsons Business College, Parsons; Pittsburg Business College, Pittsburg; Western University at Quindaro; Kansas Wesleyan University, Salina; St. John's Military Academy, Salina; St. Mary's College, St. Marys; St. Francis Monastery, St. Paul; Bethany College, Topeka; Cooper College, Sterling; Washburn College, Topeka; Fairmount College, Wichita; Friends University, Wichita; Mount Carmel Academy, Wichita; Southwestern College, Winfield; St. John's College at Winfield; Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan; University of Kansas at Lawrence; Fort Hays Normal School; State Normal School, Emporia; Manual Training at Pittsburg; Industrial and Educational Institute for the Colored at Topeka.

What will be said of Ellis county in the articles to follow will show how Kansas maintains its business, educational, churches and general forces which make for a good living as this county is one of the important factors in this maintenance.

Fifty years' imprisonment for the theft of a package of cigarettes is a possibility facing Frank Lynch, a New York man.

He pointed a revolver at the head of Irving Greene in that city and robbed him of all he possessed, which proved to be cigarettes.

The grand jury has indicted him for:

Robbery in the first degree.
Assault in the first degree.
Grand larceny in the first degree.
Criminally receiving stolen goods.
The maximum punishment for the lot is fifty years.

NOTICE

Until June 2, 1922, the Post Office Department is going to accept bids from anyone who has a suitable building for a Post Office that they would consider renting to the government for a number of years. Anyone interested may obtain full information from H. W. Chittenden, Postmaster.

MILITARY FUNERAL

Corporal Ralph Burns Brought from Overseas Buried at Monon Chapel

The military funeral held at the Monticello M. E. Church for Corporal Ralph Van Doren Burns, who was killed in action in the Argonne Forest during the World War, was attended by many people of the city. Thornton Williams Post of the American Legion had charge of the services, the Rev. T. J. Bassett officiating. At the services Dr. Bassett read a letter which the Chaplain connected with the same company in which the young man had served, had written, in which he told of the circumstances of his death.

Special music was furnished by a quartet composed of Rev. H. J. Wilson, George Breese, S. A. Carson and Guy Williams.

The Legion members who served as pallbearers, color guards and the firing squad were all attired in uniform.

The body arrived here early Thursday morning from Hoboken, N. J., just having arrived from France, and was taken to the home of his mother until the funeral. Burial was made at Monon Chapel.

The following obituary was read at the service:

Ralph Van Doren Burns, son of Lewis M. and Hulda Burns, was born near Kentland, Indiana, Dec. 20, 1894, and was killed in the battle of the Argonne, October 4, 1918, being at the time he fell 23 yrs., 9 months and 14 days old.

He attended the public schools near Kentland, Ind., until 14 years of age, when the family moved to Kansas, where he lived until he enlisted.

When 22 years of age he enlisted at Hays City, Kansas, entering Co. I, 16th Infantry.

He was in the famous First Division of the army, and was Corporal in his company.

After going to Kansas he completed the grades and took a course in the Kansas State Normal, then taught school four years and from that work entered the army as a volunteer.

Those who now remain to mourn him are his mother, Mrs. H. M. Burns of Monticello; a brother, Frank T. Burns of Monticello, and a sister, Mrs. N. F. Dewey, also of Monticello, the father having died a year ago.—Monticello (Ind.) Journal.

OBITUARY

Sarah Elizabeth Parrish was born February 5th, 1855, in Keokuk county, Iowa. She was married to Sumner Crocker, October 27, 1880. They moved to Kansas and settled on a homestead in 1884. To this union was born four children: Mrs. Mabel Runyon, of Hays, Kansas; Mrs. Lottie Runyon, of Howbert, Colorado; B. F. Crocker, of Atlanta, Georgia; and C. L. Crocker of Palco, Kansas. In 1903 they moved to Hays. On June 29th, 1905, Mr. Crocker died, but Mrs. Crocker continued to live here until 1912, when she moved back to her old home near Palco, where she lived with her youngest son until her death.

She took suddenly ill on May 7th, and was brought to St. Anthony's Hospital on May 8th. She seemed to be growing better until Tuesday evening when she suddenly became worse and passed away at 12:30 a. m. on May 10th.

Besides her four children above mentioned, she leaves to mourn her loss, four brothers and two sisters: Dr. G. M. Parrish of Chelam, Washington; Millard Parrish, Santa Rosa, California; Fremont Parrish, of Martinsburg, Iowa; Thomas Parrish, of North Branch, Kansas; Salina Shipman, of Enid, Oklahoma; Anna Shipman, of Red Cloud, Nebraska, and seven grandchildren.

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank those who so kindly assisted during the sickness and death of our dear Mother—Mabel Runyon, Ben F. Crocker, Carl L. Crocker, Lottie Runyon.

Miss Nellie Miller from Kansas City, who has been visiting Mrs. Gerit Snyder, a few weeks, returned home Monday morning. She expressed herself delighted with the Music Festival program and seemed amazed at the big things that are being projected at Hays.

When you want rugs cleaned or other work around the house well done, phone wants to Golden Belt Cafe, Phone No. 195.

JOHN GRAY IS OUT TO WIN

The announcement of John M. Gray as republican candidate for congress from this, the sixth district, appears in this issue of the News Post. We have known for some time the gentleman "had a leaning" in that direction, but not until Monday did we have authority to make this definite announcement.

It is safe to presume the majority of residents of Phillips county are personally acquainted with John Gray, as he came here with his parents in 1872, and this has been his continuous home since. He was raised on a farm near Kirwin, educated in the country school, the Stockton academy, and the Salina normal university. He taught school in this county several years, was elected county surveyor when 24 years of age, and served seven years, never having appeal from his work in this line, and we wish to say that during his term of office he had more land surveying than anyone who ever held that office.

In 1909 Mr. Gray was nominated and elected to serve us in the legislature as representative and held the office three terms. In 1920 he was elected state senator from the 40th district, comprising Norton, Phillips and Smith counties. In 1905 he embarked in the hardware and implement business in the home town of Kirwin, and in 1913 the Gray-Stagg Mercantile Co. was organized, becoming one of the strongest business concerns in the northwestern part of the state. During his residence in Kirwin, John Gray has held the office of mayor, and has been identified with every movement for the welfare of his home town and county.

Mr. Gray will spend most of his time between now and the date of the primary visiting throughout the district and will meet as many of the republican voters as is possible. He is in fine physical condition for campaigning and those not personally acquainted with him will find he is a go-getter, a tireless worker for the things he believes right and a fitting representative for the sixth congressional district.—Phillipsburg News.

You will see Mr. Gray's announcement in this issue of the Free Press.

HAYS NORMAL PREPARES FOR SUMMER SCHOOL

Providing rooms for students at the summer sessions of the Normal Schools is one of the largest problems that confront the Normal School presidents. Last year over 800 students enrolled for the summer school at Hays. But even this large number was taken care of with ease and comfort. The hospitable citizens of Hays threw open their homes and welcomed the students. This year the summer school will probably number over 1000. Since last summer almost one hundred new homes have been built in Hays and these will also be thrown open, so that Hays anticipates little difficulty in taking care of its summer school.

The enrollment for the summer school this year occurs on May 31. The summer session continues for nine weeks and closes July 28. Teachers, in ever increasing numbers are taking advantage of the summer schools. The excellent equipment at Hays, together with the delightful climate, is drawing ever increasing numbers to the institution.

FOR GOVERNOR—W. Y. MORGAN

Hutchinson, Kansas, May 18, 1922
The nominating petitions of W. Y. Morgan were circulated last week at his home city at Hutchinson. Over two thousand signatures were attached to the nomination and the circulators reported that as they presented the blank to every Republican they met, they did not find more than one or two in a hundred who did not sign.

"It was one of the most remarkable testimonials of united support that could be given," said C. O. Hitchcock, who had charge of the circulation of the petitions. "It would be natural to expect that in a city like Hutchinson here would be some who would not give their endorsement, but we can confidently say to the people of the State that Hutchinson is solidly behind W. Y. Morgan for Governor for the nomination and when election day comes in November, I believe it will be practically unanimous for him, as Democrats announced their intentions to give their votes to Morgan if he were the Republican nominee."

Viola Sample Store cuts the price.

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

May 30, 1922

FORENOON

9:00 Assemble at Post Room, City Hall. All who have flowers are kindly requested to bring them to this place.

10:00 (Sharp). March to Cemetery. The order will be as follows:
The Hays Municipal Band
Sons of Veterans
World War Veterans
Civil War Veterans
Boy Scouts
School Children
Citizens

AFTERNOON

2:00 Public Exercises at Strand. Program
Song—"Star Spangled Banner"
Reading of Orders Adjutant
Invocation
Welcome Address Post Commander
Song
Roll of Honor
"The Unknown Soldier" Gladys Copeland
Address Mr. M. F. Harria
Ottawa, Kansas
Song—"America."
Benediction

The Public are cordially invited to be present and participate in the exercises of the day.

Persons having automobiles are kindly requested to assist.

The Memorial sermon will be delivered by the Reverend Mr. Snyder of the Lutheran Church, on Sunday, May 28, at 11 o'clock a. m., at the Strand. Everybody invited.

BIG CELEBRATION IN WESTERN KANSAS

Oakley Shriners Will Put on a Real Show July Fourth

The biggest 4th of July celebration in Western Kansas will be held at Oakley this year. The Oakley Shrine Club with fifty-five members has this celebration in charge and every member must work or be fined, or go to jail. There'll be bright lights, fireworks, parades, baseball, broncho busting, races, stands, lemonade, peanuts, confetti, band music, vocal music, doll racks, egg-throwing contest, dance and jazz. Oakley folks want you with them that day. Oakley hasn't celebrated for a long time and the lid will be kicked off and the day will be one grand show. Oakley's railroad connections are such that you can spend the entire day there if you desire to come by rail. Four of the greatest auto highways in Kansas with graded roadbed lead directly to the town square in Oakley. Someone is going to drive home a brand new Hudson Sedan which will be given away absolutely free. Special trains are being arranged on the Lincoln Branch and the main line of the U. P. Plan on spending the 4th in Oakley if you want to celebrate to the limit. Watch this paper for further announcement.

A PROTEST

Some of the citizens of Hays think the editor of the Free Press made a mistake when he printed in his paper last week, that "the ladies of Hays" are sure of some beautiful flowers, if they plant tulip bulbs in the fall. We think "someone else is sure" of them.

There are numerous complaints about tulips being stolen. We know of one instance where there was a bed of over a hundred tulip plants. They were beautiful and half of them in bloom; the rest budded. Before the flowers had a chance to open their petals to the sunlight of a second day, they were stolen along with the buds, and the bed someone had worked so hard to make was a sorry looking sight.

Boys and girls, if you want flowers, ask for them, don't come at night and help yourself. Nearly everyone is willing to share flowers and even if they are not, it is far better for you to ask and be refused than to take that which does not belong to you.

Don't do under the cover of darkness that which you would be ashamed to be seen doing during the day. For these evil practices will sooner or later get you into trouble and cause your parents sorrow.

Excuse us, Mr. Editor, for saying you made a mistake, but you can judge by the foregoing whether "we are sure or not" of our tulips.

We think it would be well for the younger generation of Hays to have some lessons taught on destructive-ness. A Subscriber.